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# The University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

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Oct. 18, 1993

### **UM PRESIDENT TRAVELS TO FRANCE FOR FRENCH PROGRAM ANNIVERSARY**

#### **MISSOULA --**

University of Montana President George Dennison, Jane Dennison and 30 UM administrators, faculty and students will be in Beaune, a city in Burgundy, France, during Oct. 23-27 to celebrate the 20th anniversary of UM's study abroad program in France.

The Burgundy program began in 1973 with a grant from the U.S. State Department secured for UM by Sen. Mike Mansfield. Since then some 300 UM students have taken the spring orientation course to prepare for their study abroad in the fall. There they have two weeks of travel in France, seven weeks' living with French families in Burgundy and a month of intensive study in Paris followed by a month of organized travel in Europe.

Planned activities during the celebration include ceremonies at Beaune's city hall honoring the UM administrators and a reception at the medieval Abbey of St. Martin honoring administrators, program directors, students and French families who have hosted UM students over the past 20 years.

The celebrants will also visit the Lycee Viticole de Beaune vineyards, wineries and academic programs. The Lycee sponsors the program with UM's College of Arts and Sciences and the French department.

Thirteen UM students, accompanied by Professor Sigyn Minier, are now in France participating in the program. Joining them and the Dennisons for the 20th anniversary celebration

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will be several Burgundy program alumni; Jim Flightner, dean of UM's College of Arts and Sciences; Professor Maureen Curnow, chair of the foreign languages and literatures department; Professor Will Rolfe, head of the French section; Professor Robert Brock, the first director of the UM program in France in 1973; and Carolyn Brock, a French teacher at Missoula's Big Sky High School. They are all participating at the invitation of 40 visitors from Beaune who were at UM last spring for Centennial Showcase Week and UM's celebration of the study abroad program in France's 20th anniversary.

President Dennison will return to campus Thursday, Oct. 28.

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